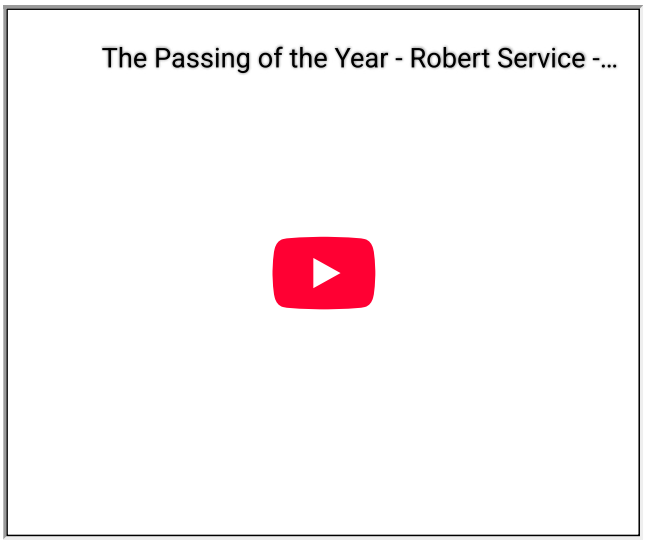
UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009

Thursday, January 1, 2026

Putting the Old Year Behind Us

The Passing of the Year - Robert W. Service



Or direct to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GuhqvxbJc4o.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:

Labels: miscellaneous

Straws in the Wind - Part 209

The Council of UC Faculty Associations

- Fight for the Future of Higher Education: Academic Freedom from the Classroom to the Clinic
- Our Concerns Over Revisions to APMs 15 and 16
- Fight for the Future of Higher Ed Town Hall
- Letter from AAUP to UC Objecting to Trellix
- Judge rules Trump demands of UCLA must be made public

Remaking the University

- Minneapolis Lessons for Higher Education - 1/31/2026
- Achieving Our University - 1/20/2026
- Liner Note 46. On Direct Faculty Control of Universities - 1/17/2026

Higher Ed. News & Commentary

- Chronicle of Higher Education
- Inside Higher Education
- Remaking the University
- Changing Universities
- California Professor

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- UCLA Faculty Association
- UCSB Faculty Association
- UCSC Faculty Association
- UCB Faculty Association
- Council of UC Faculty Associations

Other Faculty Organizations

- American Association of University Professors
- California Faculty Association (NEA)
- UC-AFT

Topics

From the LA Times: *A Stanford software engineering degree used to be a golden ticket. Artificial intelligence has devalued it to bronze, recent graduates say. The elite students are shocked by the lack of job offers as they finish studies at what is often ranked as the top university in America. When they were freshmen, ChatGPT hadn't yet been released upon the world. Today, AI can code better than most humans. Top tech companies just don't need as many fresh graduates.*

...Stanford students describe a suddenly skewed job market, where just a small slice of graduates — those considered "cracked engineers" who already have thick resumes building products and doing research — are getting the few good jobs, leaving everyone else to fight for scraps... The shake-up is being felt across California colleges, including UC Berkeley, USC and others. The job search has been even tougher for those with less prestigious degrees.

...The engineers' most significant competitor is getting stronger by the day. When ChatGPT launched in 2022, it could only code for 30 seconds at a time. Today's AI agents can code for hours, and do basic programming faster with fewer mistakes.

Data suggests that even though AI startups like OpenAI and Anthropic are hiring many people, it is not offsetting the decline in hiring elsewhere. Employment for specific groups, such as early-career software developers between the ages of 22 and 25 has declined by nearly 20% from its peak in late 2022, according to a Stanford study. It wasn't just software engineers, but also customer service and accounting jobs that were highly exposed to competition from AI. The Stanford study estimated that entry-level hiring for AI-exposed jobs declined 13% relative to less-exposed jobs such as nursing...

Full story at https://www.latimes.com/business/story/2025-12-19/they-graduated-from-stanford-due-to-ai-they-cant-find-job.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:

Labels: Stanford, UC-Berkeley, USC

Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 105

From the Harvard Crimson: *When the Harvard Salient's board of directors suspended the conservative student magazine in late October, they accused its student members of publishing "reprehensible" material and claimed they had received "deeply disturbing and credible complaints about the broader culture of the organization." Then, for more than a month, the*

politics (2363) UC (2096) UC Regents (1888) health care (1425) State Budget (1276) governor (1125) UC budget crisis (970) diversity (962) UC-Berkeley (912) pension (662) pensions (593) admissions (543) athletics (539) tuition (533) CSU (411) transportation (395) UC-Davis (377) online education (339) UCOP (312) uc retirement (308) ucrp (301) traffic (300) audio (291) UC enrollment (282) new hotel-conference center (282) UC-San Diego (263) enrollment (259) community colleges (243) LAO (231) UC-Irvine (185) fund raising (168) UC-Santa Barbara (162) UC-San Francisco (160) UC-Santa Cruz (159) controller (149) faculty center (144) UC-Riverside (142) ballot propositions (132) CalPERS (122) UC-Merced (117) faculty pay (109) Master Plan (106) Yudof (90) UCRS retirement (62) parking (61) Faculty Association at UCLA (60) privatization (59) CalSTRS (50) UC Berkeley (35) copyright (35) campus climate survey (28) UCRS (22) Michigan Model (18) UC Merced (17) uc funding (16) Regents (15) State Contribution (14) UCOF (14) faculty recruitment (12) UC pay (7) graduate education (6) UC San Diego (5) UC Irvine (3) UCpolitics (3) teaching evaluation (3) UC Santa Cruz (2)

Blog Archive

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Lane Squeeze Coming Next Weekend

Straws in the Wind - Part 239

Watch the Regents Meetings of Jan. 21, 2026

Just the (Corrected) Facts - Part 2

Is small beautiful in the current higher ed climate?

Climate Proposal

Straws in the Wind - Part 238

Inquiring Minds

Straws in the Wind - Part 237

Encampment Case Goes Forward - Decision

Watch the Regents Meetings of January 20, 2026

Straws in the Wind - Part 236 (Compact 2.0)

Former UCLA Law Dean Named Head of Columbia

board was silent. But a series of documents obtained by The Crimson reveal what members of the Salient's governing body were concerned about: variations of a racial slur used casually in a group chat of members; an unpublished issue featuring a call for mass executions; and draft versions of a September article, written by David F.X. Army '28, that included two images of swastikas and a Nazi slogan in the subtitle.

After its publication, Army's piece drew fire for a line — "Germany belongs to the Germans, France to the French, Britain to the British, America to the Americans" — that mirrored a phrase used by Adolf Hitler in a 1939 speech. The magazine's editor-in-chief, Richard Y. Rodgers '28, eventually issued a statement standing behind the piece and saying any invocation of Nazi language was unintentional. But draft versions of the article suggest that, at the very least, members of the Salient were aware that the article's contents invoked Nazi ideology...

Full story at https://www.thecrimson.com/article/2025/12/21/documents-reveal-harvard-salient-complaint/.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:10 AM No comments:

Labels: Harvard

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

Our New Year's Eve Presentation

George Ade's New Year's Fable of Successful Tobias:

Bubble Worries
Straws in the Wind - Part 235
ICE Matters
Some day
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It's hard to keep the lid on - Part 10 (confirmation)
Pension Payments at Risk - Part 2
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Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 112
In Dialogue or in Denial - Part 2
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Wikipedia solicitations
I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 9
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Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge - Part 111
Bond May Be Coming
Straws in the Wind - Part 230
It's hard to keep the lid on - Part 9 (and now it'...
Just the (Corrected) Facts
Terminated
Straws in the Wind - Part 229
Wikipedia Scams
Why Folks Are Nervous - Part 3
Straws in the Wind - Part 228 (if you can't lick '...
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And things roll along without a Master Plan
UC Should Cash the Check Quickly
Straws in the Wind - Part 226
Union Negotiation News
I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 8
Straws in the Wind - Part 225
Data Breach at Credit Union
Subway Issues Today
Extra Cash Continues
Straws in the Wind - Part 224
New Bus Lane to UCLA
Pension Payments at Risk
Why folks are nervous - Part 2
Straws in the Wind - Part 223
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 110
New Anderson Dean
No Retroactive Pension Payments for Delayed Filings

Or direct to https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sn38xhd8swc.

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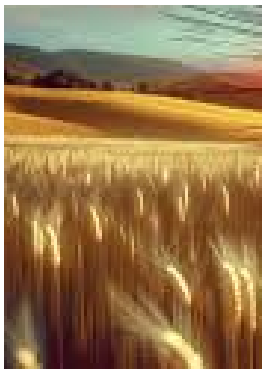
Labels: miscellaneous

Straws in the Wind - Part 208



From Inside Higher Ed: *President Donald Trump's skepticism of the current accreditation system bled into [the] National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) meeting—the first since Education Secretary Linda McMahon and other officials were confirmed. The Trump administration has cast accreditation as beset by alleged woke priorities, a theme repeated [at the meeting] along with pledges to shake up the system. Concerns about a supposed pervasive liberal ideology among such bodies prompted an executive order in April that threatened to strip federal recognition from accreditors that require institutions to engage in unlawful diversity practices...*

[The] meeting began with the election of a new NACIQI chair, a process that required two votes after the 18-member board tied on the first try. After the second vote, Jay Greene, a former senior research fellow at the Heritage Foundation and sharp critic of diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives, was named chair. He was among the five Department of Education appointees named in November. Greene promised "to be a fair, even-handed chair" despite the "awkwardness" of the vote, which he won after Jennifer Blum, a Republican appointee abstained after voting against Greene in the election.

The vote was followed by remarks from Education Under Secretary Nicholas Kent who was participating in his first NACIQI meeting since being confirmed by the U.S. Senate. (While the meeting was initially scheduled for July, ED postponed it until October, and it was later rescheduled to December because of the lengthy government shutdown in the fall.) "Instead of focusing on student outcomes and accountability to taxpayers, accreditation has functioned as a shield for incumbent institutions, or worse, as a tool for political and ideological enforcement," Kent said. "We will end the practice of using accreditation as a political weapon. As we correct past abuses, we might be accused of weaponization, but those accusations will be false." ...

Full story at https://www.insidehighered.com/news/governance/accreditation/2025/12/17/kent-tells-accreditation-panel-buckle.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:

Labels: diversity, politics

The Way It Was

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I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 7 (earlie...
The Underside of UCLA Receives National Attention
Straws in the Wind - Part 221
The Visit
Faculty Discipline & Name Disclosures
Straws in the Wind - Part 220
Still More on the Need for a New Master Plan
UC Enrollment
Straws in the Wind - Part 219
The Regents Are Coming: January 20-21, 2026
The No-Hassles-While-I'm-in-Office State Budget Pr...
Fast Movers
Straws in the Wind - Part 218
Dukakis Event This Coming Tuesday
No Cap
People are starting to notice
Today Is Budget Day
Straws in the Wind - Part 217
Yesterday's State of the State: Little Concrete on...
All in 30 Minutes - Part 5
State of the State Due Today - Update
I think I can use "entourage" in a sentence
Straws in the Wind - Part 216
State of the State due today
And yet more on Harvard's data manipulation affair
Straws in the Wind - Part 215
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 109
Grade Inflation Is Not the Same as Price Inflation...
UCLA ahead in the Wikipedia editing sweepstakes
Straws in the Wind - Part 214
Dodd
Data Privacy
The coming state budget squeeze
New Research Costs for 2026
Straws in the Wind - Part 213
Computer Ready
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 108
I Never Promised You a Rose Bowl? - Part 6
4th Quarter 2025 Wrap-Up on the Governor
Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 107

► 2025 (1139)
► 2024 (832)

Westwood in 1940.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:10 AM No comments:

Labels: miscellaneous, UCLA

Tuesday, December 30, 2025

Subway-Related Traffic Issues Coming in the New Year

Decking Removal Resumes at Westwood/UCLA Station

Summary

Decking removal at the Westwood/UCLA Station will be postponed until Friday, January 2 at 11pm. Work is anticipated to end at 6am on Monday, January 5.

This work will require the closure of westbound Wilshire Bl between Veteran Av and Westwood Bl as well as the reduction of eastbound Wilshire to two lanes between Veteran Ave. and Westwood Bl. Decking removal is anticipated to require an additional 10 weekends of work ending in late January.

Construction that weekend will limit turns at the Wilshire Bl/Westwood Bl intersection.

Traffic Control

Traffic on westbound Wilshire Bl will be detoured at Westwood Bl to Santa Monica Blvd via portable changeable message boards located at various locations. Traffic will remain open on eastbound Wilshire Bl; however, since eastbound Wilshire Bl will be reduced to two lanes, message boards will be placed to encourage motorists to utilize Santa Monica Blvd via Sepulveda Blvd in case of heavy congestion.

Work Hours

Friday, January 2 at 11p.m. until Monday, January 15 at 6 am.

Hauling Hours

► 2023 (828)
► 2022 (719)
► 2021 (710)
► 2020 (914)
► 2019 (671)
► 2018 (595)
► 2017 (666)
► 2016 (715)
► 2015 (765)
► 2014 (704)
► 2013 (776)
► 2012 (839)
► 2011 (738)
► 2010 (431)
► 2009 (12)

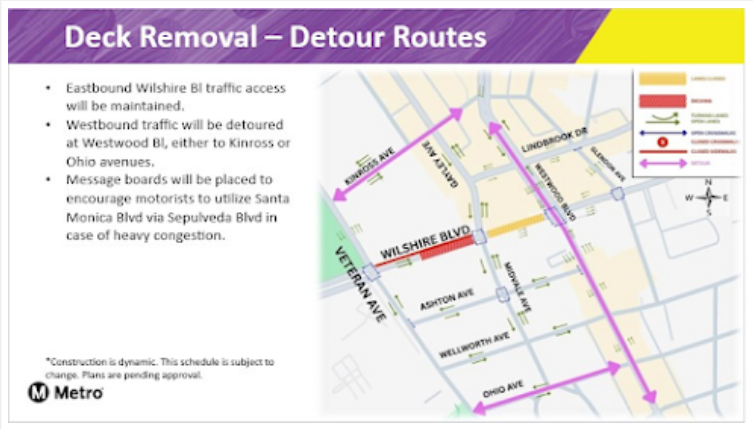
Contributors

- California Policy Issues
- Toby Higbie
- UCLA Faculty Association

Hauling of the decking panels, deck beams, backfill material, base and asphalt will take place throughout the duration of the closure.

Noteworthy

- All work has received necessary permits and approvals.
- Parking restrictions will be implemented in the immediate work zone area.
- Construction is dynamic and schedules are subject to change.
- The project information line is 213.922.6934


Deck Removal – Detour Routes
Eastbound Wilshire Bl traffic access will be maintained.
Westbound traffic will be detoured at Westwood Bl, either to Kinross or Ohio avenues.
Message boards will be placed to encourage motorists to utilize Santa Monica Blvd via Sepulveda Blvd in case of heavy congestion.
*Construction is dynamic. This schedule is subject to change. Plans are pending approval.
Metro
KINROSS AVE
GAYLEY AVE
LINDBROOK DR
WESTWOOD BLVD
WILSHIRE BLVD
VETERAN AVE
ASHTON AVE
MIDVALE AVE
WELLWORTH AVE
OHIO AVE

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Labels: traffic, UCLA

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